

**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills,
Executive Director for Environment & Economy**

| | |
|------------|---|
| Report to: | Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee |
| Date: | 11 July 2016 |
| Subject: | Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership School Safety Watch - Status Report |

Summary:

This report provides a short briefing to the Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee regarding School Safety Watch. This is a new initiative aimed primarily at Lincolnshire schools but may include other establishments where children regularly attend.

Recommendation(s):

Members of the Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider and comment on the report and highlight any recommendations or further actions required.

1. Background

School Safety Watch (SSW) is a Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership (LRSP) initiative which builds upon the well-established Community Speed Watch (CSW) scheme.

CSW was designed to empower local communities to tackle non-safety critical speeding issues. CSW replaced previous initiatives including the passive notices used in 'Parish Calm' whilst also addressing the shortcomings of manually deployed reactive signs used in 'Parish Link'. CSW utilises both passive and reactive speed information signs.

The reactive 'dot matrix' CSW signs are powered by rechargeable batteries and attach to a bracket on a post, such as a lamp post and are designed to move between different brackets. Communities often purchase a number of brackets that are permanently fixed to lamp posts and rotate the reactive signs between them. This initiative also allows smaller parishes to share the signs. In order to ensure the signs have the maximum impact they do not remain in any one place for more than a six week period.

CSW has achieved a significant visual presence throughout the county resulting in enquiries regarding installation of signs at school locations.

The new SSW scheme will act as an independent initiative under the CSW banner with the method of sign deployment differing from the original scheme.

In the case of SSW, feedback from schools has indicated that they are unlikely to participate in a scheme where the safety sign has to be relocated periodically. Further, as this scheme seeks to address issues at a specific location outside the school, moving signs would not be practical. As such, LRSP are exploring the feasibility that SSW devices could be permanently located, either on a suitable LCC utility, lamp post, or dedicated post.

It is felt that the permanent siting of SSW devices in contrast to the temporary siting of CSW devices could create grievances by some users of CSW who would prefer to leave signs up permanently. In order to address this issue the interactive device used in SSW is different both in its appearance and the facilities it provides. It is hoped this will ensure the scheme is seen as independent from CSW.

SSW will employ an enhanced interactive warning device which detects and displays vehicle speed. Messages are graded for effect in green, yellow and red and can be displayed in a steady or flashing format. The device also has an enhanced facility to display alternative messages at pre-programmed times of the day. The device can be automatically turned on and off at programmed times, i.e. only operating at times deemed relevant by the school.

Device Images



SSW devices cost approximately £2000 each. This is similar to the CSW signs. Both signs are powered by rechargeable batteries.

2. Conclusion

The LRSP Strategic Board gave approval for SSW to be trialled at two schools. The first SSW sign is currently located at a nursery pre-school site in Tattershall. The sign will be in situ for 10 days. William Farr secondary school will provide the second trial location in due course.

LRSP will collate data and community feedback from these trials and report to the full Highways Scrutiny Committee meeting scheduled for July.

3. Consultation

Has The Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes.

Has The Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes.

Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Andrew Trevithick, who can be contacted on 01522 805800 or andrew.trevithick@lincolnshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank